

Whereas, Mr. Jaime Benítez Rexach was an outstanding educator, patriot, and public servant, whose contributions continue to shape the fabric of American society; and

Whereas, celebrating Mr. Jaime Benítez Rexach's legacy contributes to the strength and culture of our Nation; now, therefore, I, Congresswoman JENNIFFER GONZÁLEZ-COLÓN, do hereby attest to the 115th Congress that Mr. Jaime Benítez Rexach is deserving of national and congressional recognition.

Proclaimed, this 23rd day of October, 2018.

HONORING JESSE LOREN WITH
CALIFORNIA'S THIRD DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Jesse Loren as a woman of the year. She is an enthusiastic, valued, and beloved member of the Winters community who exemplifies the qualities of a true public servant. Ms. Loren began her teaching career as an English and Journalism teacher in the Esparto and Travis School Districts where she served in leadership roles on the School Site Council at Vanden High School. In recognition of her exceptional skills as an educator, Ms. Loren was honored with Vanden High School's 2009 Teacher of the Year award. Ms. Loren is a member of a wide range of organizations and foundations including the Winters Hispanic Advisory Committee, the League of California Cities, the Water Resources Association, the Yolo Solano Sustainable Groundwater Agency, and Yolo Leaders. Furthermore, in 2016 she was elected to the Winters City Council where she dove into the issues of concern to Winters residents, swiftly learning the nuts and bolts of how the city functioned. Always deft at building community, Ms. Loren's efforts on the City Council have strengthened the cohesion and collegiality of the Winters community. As a strong advocate for effective water management and quality public education, Ms. Loren consistently demonstrates a keen interest in understanding every aspect of an issue. Her generosity with her time and energy is truly remarkable, enabling her to serve her constituents and community members with unusual insight and empathy. Ms. Loren is a skilled public servant whose devotion to the community she serves is worthy of recognition.

HONORING CY NICOLAS BOWMAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Cy Nicolas Bowman. Cy is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 47, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Cy has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Cy has been involved with scout-

ing, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Cy has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Cy built and established a Little Free Library in St. Joseph, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Cy Nicolas Bowman for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

MARINE CORPS SERGEANT ERIC
MORANTE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, 1 in 10 Americans join the military and I am proud to say that the state of Texas consistently meets their quarterly quotas. Texans are raised with a sense of patriotism and civic duty, which is reflected by the number of enlisted members in the military. As of September 2017, Texas had 164,234 members on active duty or reserves, placing Texas as the 2nd state with the largest population serving in the armed forces.

From an early age Texans are taught southern hospitality, religion, and love for their country. This is especially true for Marine Corps Sergeant Eric Morante, who recalls wanting to be a US Marine since he was 8 years old. In 2003, weeks after graduating from high school, Eric stepped foot in San Diego, California to complete the Marine Corp boot camp. As an 0311-Infantryman, he was given orders to the 2nd battalion, 7th Marines in Twenty-nine Palms, California. Weeks after reporting for duty, his unit deployed to Iraq. Eric would be assigned to a fire-team that cleared houses in Fallujah. On his first deployment, Eric was conducting raids, patrolling and identifying high value targets, all at the age of 18. Eric completed his first 7-month tour and returned safely to American soil for 6 months before being re-deployed to Iraq on July 4, 2005.

Eric's second deployment was a little different than the first. Days before their scheduled return, the 2nd battalion, 7th Marines, lost 10 men and had 11 injuries from a single explosion caused by a pressure plate IED on the west side of Fallujah. After two "desert" deployments and the loss of several comrades, Eric Morante honorably completed his first enlistment. But this proud Texan was not done serving his country or his beloved US Marine Corps. In 2006, he raised his right hand, and for a second time, he swore to defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic. As he prepared for his new drill-instructor role, he learned that the 2/7 was being re-deployed for another tour. Eric deferred his new orders as a drill-instructor to accompany the men that had become his family, to the Middle-East. The loss of his friends weighed heavy on his heart and he was not prepared to lose more.

On April 20th of 2007, four months into this third Iraq deployment, Eric stood watch with 6 Marines and a Navy Corps man, over bridge 286 that overlooks 6 lanes over a major highway that runs through Iraq. On that day, their

lives were forever changed. A dump truck carrying 3,000 lbs. of explosives detonated just 15 feet away from the bridge. Waking up covered in large remnants of concrete, Eric recalls sitting up and spitting up blood. His left arm twisted and dislocated and his right leg in an un-natural L-shape.

Despite the complete state of shock, the constant ringing in the ears, and the faint voices, Eric managed to account for his men. Miraculously, no men were killed in the explosion, and the 6 of the 8 men that were seriously injured were medevacked.

Unable to save Eric's severely injured right leg, the doctors of Bethesda Naval Hospital amputated above the knee. Pins were used to repair his left hand, surgery to reconstruct his face was conducted and once again, Eric would have to learn how to walk. Recuperating at the Brooks Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas, he found himself going through a period of depression and began to isolate himself from his loved ones. At one point, was taking 16 prescribed medications to help cope with his PTSD.

In 2009, Eric welcomed his first and only son, which gave him purpose and a new perspective in life. His new role as a father allowed him to once again be the Eric he once was; a leader with grit, respect, and desire to help others. Since the explosion, Eric has completed triathlons, 5Ks, and sprints. He also became the first Marine amputee to be sanctioned for boxing in the United States and remained undefeated for 5 full years. He boxes at fundraising matches that benefit veteran organizations, and has created a name for himself in the veteran community. He continuously advocates and helps others that struggle with PTSD and visits military hospitals in an effort to guide amputees through the prosthetics process.

Mr. Speaker, President Ronald Reagan once said "some people spend an entire lifetime wondering if they made a difference. But the Marines don't have that problem". The great state of Texas commends Eric for his service, courage and resiliency. Semper Fi Marine.

And that's just the way it is.

IN HONOR OF MR. GUY BEATTY

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the achievements and life of Mr. Guy Beatty from McLean, Virginia, a leading philanthropist, entrepreneur, and cherished member of our community.

Mr. Beatty was an astute businessman who became tremendously successful in his business ventures while maintaining humility and his faith. After he began working in real estate in 1962, with \$2000 in his pocket, he achieved vast amounts of success and was able to grow his business as he established partnerships with those who could help him realize his goals.

Mr. Beatty was not only known as a businessman, but a benevolent man who devoted a great deal of his life to philanthropy. He was passionate about helping others and was